

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method of treating a subject suffering from pain comprising the step of administering to the subject an effective amount of a lactoferrin composition to provide an improvement in pain in the subject, wherein the pain is associated with recovery from surgery and wherein any N-terminal lactoferrin variant in the lactoferrin composition has a deletion, substitution, or combination thereof, of from 1 to 16 N-terminal amino acid residues and the N-terminal lactoferrin variant retains the same biological function as full length lactoferrin.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said lactoferrin composition reduces the severity of the patient's pain.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition is dispersed in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin is mammalian lactoferrin.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said lactoferrin is human lactoferrin or bovine lactoferrin.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin is recombinant lactoferrin.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition is administered orally.
12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition is administered parenterally.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition is administered topically.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising administering an antacid in conjunction with said lactoferrin composition.
15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising administering the lactoferrin composition in a delayed release formulation.
16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the lactoferrin composition is adapted for release in the small intestine.
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the lactoferrin composition is adapted for release in the large intestine.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition reduces the production or activity of pro-inflammatory cytokines.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said lactoferrin composition enhances the production or activity of cytokines that enhance an immune response.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the cytokine is TNF- α .

Claims 23-53 (canceled)